CLAIMS

1. A mounting for a wave plate comprising a journal box adapted to support said wave plate for rotation.

2. The mounting of claim 1 wherein said journal box is adapted to support said wave plate for rotation exceeding one-half revolution.

3. The mounting of claim 1 wherein said wave plate is supported for rotation substantially about a normal to an intersection of a fast and a slow axis of said wave plate.

4. The mounting of claim 1 wherein said wave plate rotates with respect to said journal box.

5. The mounting of claim 4 wherein said journal box remains stationary.

6. The mounting of claim 1 further comprising:

(a) a frame retaining said wave plate; and

(b) said frame rotatable with respect to said journal box.

7. The mounting of claim 6 further comprising:

(a) a bendable member having a first end affixed to said frame;

(b) a substantial length of said bendable member proximate to a periphery of said frame; and

(c) said bendable member having a second end.

8. The mounting of claim 7 further comprising rotating said wave plate by moving said bendable member.

9. The mounting of claim 8 further comprising a retaining mechanism to selectively inhibit the rotational movement of said frame.

10. A mounting for a wave plate comprising:

(a) a frame adapted to retain said wave plate;

(b) a support structure adapted to support said frame; and

(c) said frame rotatable with respect to said support structure.

11. A mounting for a wave plate comprising:

(a) a frame adapted to retain said wave plate;

(b) a supporting structure adapted to support said frame for rotation;

(c) a bendable member having a first end affixed to said frame;

(d) a substantial length of said bendable member proximate to a periphery of said frame; and

(e) said bendable member having a second end.

12. The mounting of claim 22 further comprising rotating said wave plate by moving said bendable member.

13. The mounting of claim 23 further comprising a retaining mechanism to selectively inhibit the rotational movement of said frame.

14. The mounting of claim 22 wherein said wave plate is substantially circular.

15. The mounting of claim 22 wherein said support structure is adapted to support said wave plate for rotation exceeding 180 degrees.

16. The mounting of claim 22 wherein said support structure is adapted to support said wave plate for rotation exceeding 90 degrees.

17. The mounting of claim 22 wherein said support structure is adapted to support said wave plate for rotation exceeding 360 degrees.

18. The mounting of claim 22 wherein said wave plate is supported for rotation substantially about a normal to an intersection of a fast and a slow axis of said wave plate.

19. The mounting of claim 22 wherein said wave plate rotates with respect to said support structure.

20. The mounting of claim 30 wherein said supporting structure remains stationary.

21. The mounting of claim 31 wherein said supporting structure completely encloses said wave plate.

22. A mounting for a wave plate comprising:

(a) an annular frame adapted to support said wave plate;

(b) a supporting structure adapted to support said annular frame for rotation of said wave plate about a normal to an intersection of a fast and a slow axis of said wave plate;

(c) a movable member having a first end affixed to said frame;

(d) said bendable member having a second end; and

(e) a retaining mechanism adapted to selectively inhibit the rotational movement of said frame.

23. The mounting of claim 33 wherein said supporting structure defines an annular opening to support said annular frame.

24. The mounting of claim 34 wherein said annular opening is smaller than said wave plate.

25. A method of adjusting a wave plate for an imaging system comprising:

(a) providing a beam splitter;

(b) providing an imaging device;

(c) providing a supporting structure including said wave plate positioned between said beam splitter and said imaging device; and

(d) adjusting the imaging system by rotating said wave plate over a range in excess of 90 degrees.

26. The method of claim 36 further comprising adjusting the imaging system by rotating said wave plate over a range in excess of 180 degrees.

27. The method of claim 36 further comprising adjusting the imaging system by rotating said wave plate over a range in excess of 360 degrees.

28. The method of claim 36 wherein said adjusting is to align at least one optical axis of said wave plate with respect to said imaging device.

29. The method of claim 37 wherein said adjusting is to align at least one optical axis of said wave plate with respect to said imaging device.

30. The method of claim 38 wherein said adjusting is to align at least one optical axis of said wave plate with respect to said imaging device.

31. The method of claim 39 further comprising selecting an optically preferable orientation of said wave plate from two orientations approximately 180 degrees apart.

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